

EMPLOYER CONTRACTING WITH EMPLOYEE TO WASH COVERALLS

Date February 27, 2007

Purpose Employers are responsible to provide clean coveralls [personal protective equipment (PPE)] daily to their employees. This interpretation describes the circumstances under which an employer can contract with an employee to wash the coveralls.

Sections interpreted Title 3, California Code of Regulations (3CCR) sections 6736, 6738, and 6744.

Definitions It is important to understand the difference between coveralls (PPE) and work clothing (3CCR section 6000) to properly apply this interpretation.

Coverall differs from, and should not be confused with, work clothing that generally is provided by the employee.

Interpretation An employer may contract with an employee to launder coveralls only under the following conditions:

1. The coveralls remain the property of the employer and employees are not allowed or directed to take potentially contaminated coveralls into their home.
2. Contaminated or potentially contaminated coveralls must be kept separate from other clothing and laundry and stored in a sealed container until laundering.
3. All clean coveralls must be either dried thoroughly or put in a well-ventilated place to dry.

It is recommended that laundering be done in a washer and dryer separate from any residential unit or laundromat.

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Employer instruction to person laundering

To protect themselves, their employees, and those with whom they may contract to wash coveralls, employers shall:

- Make sure the person laundering understands that the coveralls may be contaminated with pesticides
 - Instruct them on methods to prevent personal exposure
 - Provide the employee or contractor with the requirements specified in 3CCR sections 6736 and 6738
 - Conduct supervision of laundering, if needed
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Washing “work clothes”

For information regarding the washing of pesticide work clothes, please reference the Pesticide Safety Information Series (PSIS) A7 and N7: *Washing Pesticide Work Clothing*. The PSIS can be downloaded from Department of Pesticide Regulation’s Internet site at:

<http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/whs/psisenglish.htm>

Contact

If you have any further questions regarding this issue, please contact the Enforcement Branch Liaison assigned to your county.
